

and means, reported a bill to carry into effect the 12th article of the treaty with Mexico. It appropriated for the payment of the instalment, with interest, which falls due to Mexico on the 30th May next, \$3,000,000—for the instalment, with interest, which falls due on the 30th May, 1859, \$3,540,000.—The bill was read, referred to the committee of the whole on the state of the Union, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Caley B. Smith, from the committee on territories, reported, in conformity with the instructions of the House, a bill of twenty sections, organizing the territorial government of California, establishing also the principles of the ordinance of 1787, in regard to slavery. The bill includes, with the boundaries of the new territories, all of Upper California for the present, but authorizes the future division in part to Congress, a territorial council and House of Representatives—for the appointment by the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate, of Governor, Secretary, Attorney, and Judges—and that the persons on the Pacific, within the boundaries of the territory, shall constitute one collection district, with a salary of \$1,000 per annum.

The bill was read, referred to the committee of the whole on the state of the Union, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Hubbard offered a resolution, which was adopted, instructing the committee on foreign affairs to consider and report what alterations are necessary in our consular system in the Chinese and Turkish empires, and whether any of our consuls there, or the houses with which they are connected are engaged in any trade in violation of the laws of those empires.

Mr. White offered a resolution, calling on the Secretary of War to report to this House, as soon as practicable, the value, including the soil, of the public property in the Hawaiian Islands, in New York harbor, with a view to the transfer of that island to the State of New York. Adopted.

The House, on motion of Mr. Cobb, resumed, in Committee of the Whole, the consideration of the resolutions of Mr. Vinton, returning the various portions of the President's message to appropriate committees. Mr. Fisher concluded his remarks, and was followed by Mr. Lahm, of Ohio, and Mr. Washington Hunt. Without coming to any conclusion on the resolutions, or the amendments proposed yesterday, the committee rose; and, on motion of Mr. Stephens, the House adjourned.

FRIDAY, Dec. 22.—In the Senate, Mr. Douglas introduced a resolution, which was adopted, instructing the Committee on the District of Columbia to inquire into the expediency of retroceding to the State of Maryland all of the District not occupied by the public grounds and public buildings.

Mr. Clark introduced a resolution instructing the Committee on Foreign Affairs to inquire and report what alterations, if any, are necessary in our consular system in the Turkish and Chinese Empires, and whether any of our Consuls, or the houses with which they are connected, are engaged in any trade in violation of the laws of those Empires. Adopted.

Mr. Johnson, of Louisiana, introduced a bill, granting to the State of Louisiana—acres of the public lands for purposes of internal improvement. The bill was twice read and referred to the committee on public lands.

Mr. Benton, at his own request, was excused from further serving on the committee on the military committee. Mr. Jefferson Davis, the next member in order in the committee, was appointed chairman.

On motion, it was ordered that when the Senate adjourn to adjourn to Tuesday next.

Mr. Allen inquired of the committee on printing, when they were to have the reports from the Departments, none of which, he said, had yet been laid upon the tables of the Senators. The chairman being absent, no reply was made.

A message was received from the President, by Mr. J. Knox Walker, private secretary, informing the Senate that he had approved and signed several private bills therein named.

On motion of Mr. Downs, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of bills on the private calendar, and several were taken up, but none finally disposed of.

On motion, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the special order, being the bill providing for the draining of the Everglades in Florida. It was again informally passed over.

Mr. Reverdy Johnson submitted a resolution, which lies on the table, calling on the President to communicate a dispatch to the Secretary of State, dated Berlin, Dec. 17th, 1845, relative to a communication between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, together with any maps which accompany the same.

After some other unimportant business was disposed of, the Senate went into executive session, and subsequently adjourned.

In the House, Mr. Hays presented a memorial from George Wilkes, of the city of New York, for the construction of a National railroad from the Missouri river to the Pacific ocean.

On motion of Mr. Rockwell, of Connecticut, the House went into committee of the whole, with a view to take up the private calendar.

Mr. McClelland in the chair.

A large number of private bills were considered, reported to the House and passed, and the Speaker laid before the House a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, furnishing statistics of coal, required by a resolution of the House.

Also, a communication from the Postmaster General, with the report of Mr. Hobbie, called for in a resolution of the House yesterday.

A report was made from the committee on printing, in reference to certain books printed by order of Congress, and authorized, at the last session, to be delivered to members, a portion of which, the clerk of the House states, are not now in the possession of Congress.

The report concludes with a resolution authorizing the clerk to purchase these books of the booksellers. A spirited debate ensued, and the resolution was adopted. A motion to reconsider was laid on the table, and then the House adjourned.

SATURDAY, Dec. 28.—The Senate was not in session to-day, having adjourned over to Tuesday.

In the House, after the reading of the journal, it was ordered, on motion of Mr. Cobb, of Georgia, that when the House adjourn to-day, it adjourn to Wednesday.

Mr. Rockwell, of Connecticut, then moved to go into committee of the whole on the private calendar.

Mr. Pettit moved an adjournment.

The ayes and noes were demanded on the latter motion, but not ordered, one fifth of a quorum not voting, and the motion to adjourn was then negatived, 57 to 66.

The question recurring on Mr. Rockwell's motion, the vote stood 71 to 26—no quorum.

Mr. Wentworth moved a call of the House.

Mr. Thompson, of Pennsylvania, moved an adjournment, and upon this last motion the ayes and noes were ordered, and resulted—ayes 68, noes 101. So the House refused to adjourn.

Mr. Rockwell's motion was then decided in the affirmative.

The House went into committee of the whole, Mr. Boyd in the chair, and considered the private bills which were reported to the House and passed. Then, after the adoption of a resolution offered by Mr. Meade, calling on the President for certain correspondence between Mr. Wise, our former Minister, and Mr. Goussier, our former Consul, at Rio Janeiro, in relation to the African slave-trade—the House adjourned.

N. C. LEGISLATURE.

FRIDAY, Dec. 15, 1848.—In the Senate, Mr. Patterson presented a petition from citizens of Caldwell, &c., praying the erection of a new County. Referred to the committee on Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. Miller, from the Judiciary committee, made a number of reports which were acted on by the Senate. On his motion, that committee was discharged from the further consideration of the memorial from the citizens of Duplin, praying the abolition of the freehold qualification for Senators and Representatives, and also from the further consideration of the memorial in relation to a tax on Pedlars.

On motion of Mr. Graham, the Duplin memorial was laid on the table; and the memorial in relation to the tax on Pedlars was referred to the Finance committee.

Mr. Miller offered a resolution, instructing the committee on Education to inquire into the expediency of empowering the County Court to lay a tax in their respective Counties for the School Fund, equal to that furnished by the Literary Board. Adopted.

Mr. Reich introduced a bill, supplemental to an act passed at this session, to divide Stokes County; which was read first time, and referred to the Judiciary committee; and Mr. Joyner a bill, making better and more suitable provision for *femes covert*; which was read the first time.

The two Houses then voted for Comptroller of the State. The Senate vote was as follows:—Maj. W. J. Clarke, 25; W. F. Collins 25.

A number of engrossed bills and resolutions from the House of Commons, were read the first time and passed.

The bill to amend the act of 1846-47, providing for a re-assessment of the lands in this State, and a more accurate enlistment of taxable polls, was read a third time, and passed; and the bill to amend the 17th section of the revenue laws of this State, was read a second time and passed.

The two Houses voted for seven Councilors of State. The Senate vote was as follows:—Lewis Bond 25; Joshua Taylor 25; N. T. Green 25; John Winslow 25; Adolphus Erwin 25; James P. Hays 25; Thomas N. Cameron 24; Oliver D. Pitts 24; Josiah O. Watson 24; Jesse R. Siler 24; George Williamson 24; Wm. Norfleet 24; and Wm. F. Martin 23.

Mr. Gilmer moved that a message be sent to the House of Commons, proposing to vote forthwith for a U. S. Senator. Mr. Thomas, of Haywood, moved to amend this motion by striking out "forthwith," and inserting on the 23d day of January next. The Senate refused to strike out "next," yeas 23, nays 26.

Mr. Rogers then offered the following amendment: "And that in said election each member should vote according to the wishes of his constituents, as expressed in his election on the 3d of August last." Mr. Halsey moved to amend this, by striking out the word "his," immediately before the word "election," and inserting the word "the," which did not prevail.

Pending these various motions, a running debate took place between Messrs. Thomas, of Haywood, Joyner, Gilmer, and Rogers.

Pending the question on Mr. Rogers' amendment, the Senate adjourned.

In the House, Mr. Brown presented a Memorial from citizens of Sampson in reference to the Justice of the Peace in that County.

On motion of Mr. Oglesby, a resolution was adopted instructing the Judiciary committee to inquire into the expediency of enacting a law in reference to Constables and other county officers.

A message was received from the Governor, enclosing the report of the Board of Internal Improvements; which was sent to the Senate and ordered to be printed.

Mr. S. J. Person, a bill to incorporate the Grand Lodge of I. O. of F. in this State.

Mr. Oglesby offered the following resolutions:

Be it Resolved as the sense of this House, that the constitution of this State be altered and amended in the following particulars, to wit:

1. So as to dispense with the freehold qualification of members in both Houses of the Assembly.

2. So as to provide that the Senatorial district shall hereafter be laid off by the General Assembly, according to the free white population of the State, and not in proportion to the public taxes paid into the treasury of the State.

3. So as to provide that after allowing to each county one member in the House of Commons, the number of members to be elected to the balance of the members, the ratio of representation shall be ascertained by dividing the amount of free white population in the State, after deducting that comprehended within those counties which do not severally contain the one hundred and twentieth part of the entire free white population of said State, by the number of Representatives less than the members assigned to said counties.

Mr. Rayner said that those resolutions seemed to cover the whole ground, embracing the whole question of the alteration of the constitution. He hoped it would be altered in some way.

Mr. Oglesby then added the following:

Be it further Resolved, That these resolutions be referred to the committee on the Judiciary, with instructions to report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. Kelly moved that the resolutions be rejected, upon which motion the yeas and nays were called, when the vote stood 61 yeas, 48 nays.

So the resolutions were laid on the table.

Mr. Rayner then moved to take up from the table Mr. Sheek's bill providing for an alteration in the constitution.

The bill provides for calling a convention to alter the constitution, it being first submitted to the people of the State whether they will order a convention to be held or not.

After some further remarks from Messrs. Rayner, Courts, Stanley, and Sheek, Mr. Rayner's substitute was ordered to be printed and the bill laid on the table.

The House then voted for Comptroller as follows: Collins 60, Clarke 57.

A message was received from the Senate, transmitting a number of engrossed bills passed by that body, which were severally read the first time.

Mr. Keen, from the committee to superintend the election of Comptroller, reported that 85 votes and Mr. Clarke 82; the former was declared duly elected.

Here a short debate ensued, in which Messrs. Rogers, Gilmer, Shepard, and Speight, participated.

Mr. Smith presented a bill to amend an act now in force on the subject of Common Schools. Read and referred to committee on Education.

Mr. Rogers a bill to amend an act passed in 1844-45, in relation to guardians and wards. Read and referred to Judiciary committee.

A number of private bills were read a third time and passed.

The two Houses then voted for a Senator of the U. S. for six years from and after the 4th of March next. The Senate vote was as follows:

For George E. Badger—Messrs. Albright, Barnard, Bell, Daniel, Davidson, Eborn, Gilmer, Halsey, Hargrove, Joyner, Kendall, Lane, Lillingston, Miller, Patterson, Rowland, Smau, Smith, Thomas, of Davidson, Thompson, of Bertie, Willey, Washington, Woodin, and Worth—21.

For James B. Shepard—Messrs. Berry, Drake, Graham, Spicer, Thompson, of Wake, Walker, and Watson—24.

For Wm. B. Shepard—Messrs. Speaker,

Bethel, Bower, Collins, Marchison, and Wooten—6.

For Thomas L. Clingman—Messrs. Ashe, Reich, Speight, Thomas, of Haywood, and Ward—5.

For H. F. Leak—Messrs. Conner, Exum, and Hester—3.

For J. J. McKay—Messrs. Faison and Rogers—2.

For W. N. Edwards—Messrs. Hawkins and Moyer—2.

Mr. Wm. B. Shepard voted for Mr. Rayner.

The two Houses also voted for a Judge of the Superior Court—John W. Eas, Esq., and Hon. Wm. H. Battle being in nomination. The Senate vote was as follows: Ellis, 25; Battle, 24.

Mr. Thomas, of Davidson, offered a Resolution instructing the committee on Education to inquire into the expediency of amending the law by which escheated property goes to the University, so that it may pass to the Common School Fund. Adopted.

Mr. Speight offered a Resolution instructing the Finance committee to inquire into the expediency of reducing the tax on billiard tables from five hundred to three hundred dollars.

The Senate then adjourned.

In the House, Calvin Edney, Esq., member elect from Yancey county to fill the vacancy, appeared, and having been duly qualified, took his seat.

Mr. McIntosh, from the committee to superintend the election of Councilors of State, reported that Messrs. Bond, Tayloe, Green, Payne, Allison, Erwin and Winslow were duly elected.

On motion of Mr. Miller, a message was sent to the Senate, proposing to go into an election for U. S. Senator at 12 o'clock to-day.

The Speaker laid before the House certain papers in reference to the contested election in Surry, which were referred to the committee on Privileges and Elections.

On motion of Mr. Courts, a message was sent to the Senate proposing to go into an election for Superior Court Judge to-day at 1 o'clock.

Mr. Brown, a bill making compensation to jurors in the county of Sampson in certain cases.

Mr. Cherry, a bill to provide for taking depositions of witnesses to be read in suits pending in Courts in other States.

The hour having arrived to go into an election for U. S. Senator, the House proceeded to vote accordingly.

Mr. A. Gamble presented a memorial from sundry citizens of Wilkes, Surry, and Iredell, praying for the establishment of a new county by the name of Williams.

Mr. Mebane, from the committee on Finance presented a bill to provide for the payment of the debts of the State, due the Bank of the State, and the Bank of Cape Fear, and other debts due on account of endorsement by the State for the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad.

Mr. Cherry introduced a resolution instructing the Treasurer to furnish the House with certain statements.

Mr. Dobbin, a bill, accompanied with a memorial, to establish the Bank of Fayetteville; laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Walsler, from the committee to superintend the election of U. S. Senator, reported that no one had received a majority of all the votes polled, and there was therefore no election.

The hour of 1 o'clock having arrived, the House proceeded to vote for a Judge of the Superior Court.

Mr. Newsom, from the committee appointed to superintend the election of Superior Court Judge, reported the joint vote of the two Houses as follows: John W. Ellis, 85; Wm. H. Battle, 82. Mr. Ellis having received a majority of all the votes cast, was declared elected.

The House then adjourned.

Monday, Dec. 18.—In the Senate, Mr. Walker, from the committee on Propositions and Grievances, to whom was re-committed the bill to form a new County called Watauga, with instructions, made a report, which, with the bill, lies over.

The Chair laid before the Senate a deposition from the County of Orange, in relation to the contested election. Referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections.

Mr. Gilmer, from the Committee to whom so much of the Governor's Message as relates to a Day of Thanksgiving was referred, reported a resolution in accordance with the recommendation of the Governor, which lies over.

Several private bills and resolutions passed the Senate on a third reading, and also a resolution in relation to the State's claim against the General Government. To suppress Vice, provides that all Ten Pin or other Bowling alleys for public use and profit shall be licensed on payment of \$50. The bill was amended so as to read, a bill to increase the revenue of the State.

Messrs Patterson and Walker asked to be excused from serving on the Committee on Swamp Lands, which was granted, and Messrs Halsey and Thompson, of Bertie, appointed in their room.

Mr. Rowland called up a bill to clear out and improve Lumber river, in Richmond and Robeson, which was amended on his motion, and, after debate, rejected—ayes 18, noes 28.

Mr. Gilmer offered a resolution providing for the adjustment of the House, *sine die*, on the 6th of January next; which passed as follows—yeas 31, nays 15. So the resolution was adopted.

Mr. Joyner introduced a resolution instructing the Committee to whom was referred the Governor's Message relating to a Rail Road from Raleigh to Charlotte, to inquire into the expediency of commencing said work at Weldon.

Mr. Thompson, of Davidson, moved that a message be sent to the House of Commons, proposing to go into the election of a United States Senator.

Mr. Rogers moved that the Senate adjourn.

Mr. Lillingston called for the yeas and nays, which resulted as follows—yeas 24, nays 25.

On motion of Mr. Halsey, the Senate adjourned.

In the House, a message was received from the Senate transmitting several engrossed bills; amongst them a bill providing for a re-assessment of lands in the State. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. Williams, of New Hanover, presented a memorial praying for the emancipation of a slave, Washington. Referred to Committee on Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. Taylor, of Nash, introduced a bill to amend the 17th section of the 35th chapter of the Revised Statutes. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

Mr. Mebane, from the Committee on Finance, reported that the Committee had considered the resolution instructing them to enquire into the propriety of taxing Ten Pin Alleys, and that they sent a bill to the Senate on this subject.

The same gentleman reported back to the House, and begged to be discharged from further consideration of the resolution instructing the Committee on Finance to enquire into the propriety of allowing the Banks of the State to issue small notes. Concurred in.

Mr. Barringer, in the absence of Mr. Payne, the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, reported back to the House, with amendment, the bill to suppress traffic with slaves, and recommended the passage of the same. The bill was amended passed its 2d reading. Also, with amendment, the bill respecting duties of Sheriffs. The bill, with amendment, passed its 2d reading.

Mr. Courts, from Committee on Propositions and Grievances, reported favorably to the bill to amend the 17th section of the 35th chapter of the Revised Statutes, in relation to the inspection of Turpentine, reported the same with amendment. Lies over.

Mr. Thompson, of Bertie, from the committee appointed to wait upon the Governor elect, reported that Gov. Manly would be ready to appear before both Houses of the Legislature, and take the oath of office, on the 1st of January next.

Mr. Speight presented a resolution of inquiry in relation to Deeds of Trust, &c., which passed its first reading.

Mr. Moyer presented a bill to incorporate Tossnot Depot and Hickory Grove, in Edgecombe, into a Town by the name of Wilson—passed its first reading.

Mr. Drake, a bill to increase the compensation of the Chairman of the Board of Superintendents of Common Schools. Referred to committee on Education.

Mr. Spicer a bill to revise an act passed in 1842, entitled an act to incorporate a town at the County seat of Onslow, by the name of Jacksonville. Passed its first reading.

The Chair announced a message from the House agreeing to the proposition of the Senate to vote for United States Senator to-day at 12 o'clock.

The Chair announced a message from the Governor transmitting a communication in relation to procuring and preserving Colonial Documents in England, which, on motion of Mr. Washington, was referred to a select committee.

On motion of Mr. Woodin, the bill to lay out and establish a Turnpike road from Salisbury West, was made the order of the day for to-morrow.

The select committee on the Governor's message in relation to the Colonial history of the State, and Messrs. Shepard, Ashe, Halsey, Graham, and Bethel.

Mr. Woodin, from the committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred the bill to authorize a further taxation on suits at law, reported the same without amendment, and the bill passed its second reading.

On motion of Mr. Shepard, the Senate took up the bill to amend the 15th Section of the 10th chapter of the Revised Code, in relation to the collection and management of the Revenue of the State.

The hour of 12 having arrived, the two Houses proceeded to vote for U. S. Senator. Mr. Badger being the only regular candidate in nomination. 165 votes. Badger 82, the balance scattering;—no election. The two Houses again voted for U. S. Senator—no election. Another election was immediately held, when 82 votes were cast, of which Mr. Badger received 83, and was declared to be elected U. S. Senator for 6 years from the 4th of March next.

The Senator soon after adjourned.

In the House, Mr. Biggs moved that a message be sent to the Senate proposing the appointment of a joint select committee, to take into consideration the propriety of altering the time for holding the gubernatorial Election. Carried.

Mr. Hicks introduced an amendment to the 1st section, 64th Chap. Rev. Stat. Referred to Judiciary committee.

A message was received from the Senate, proposing that the two Houses adjourn *sine die*, on the 2d January. Laid on the table.

Mr. Newsom introduced a Resolution in favor of Hall and Kinney. Referred to committee on Claims.

Mr. Williamson presented a bill, appropriating \$1500, for the purpose of clearing out certain lands in Columbus county. Referred to committee on Internal Improvements.

Mr. Green, of Granville, presented a resolution for inquiring into the expediency of so amending the Law, as to prevent House-breaking in the day time. Referred to Judiciary committee.

Mr. Shepard, from the select committee to whom was referred the message of the Governor relative to the extension of the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad to Charlotte, reported a bill to incorporate the North Carolina Railroad company, and for other purposes. Laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Patterson, from the joint select committee on Cherokee Lands, to whom was referred several petitions from Rutherford and Burke, and other counties, praying the return of those lands, made a detailed report, accompanied by a bill for the relief of the purchasers of Cherokee Lands; which passed its 1st reading, and was laid on the table and ordered to be printed, with the accompanying report.

Mr. Rogers presented a Preamble and Resolutions, requesting information of the Governor in relation to the interest of the State in, and its liabilities for, Railroad Companies, &c. Adopted.

Mr. Smith, a bill to confer upon Courts certain powers over imprisoned Lunatics; referred to committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Bower moved the reconsideration of the vote by which the bill to clear out and improve Lumber river, was rejected; which obtained, and, on motion of Mr. Rowland, the bill was referred to the committee on Internal Improvements.

On motion of Mr. Davidson, a message was sent to the House, proposing to vote for U. S. Senator to-morrow at 10 o'clock. Adjourned.

In the House, Mr. Ferree from the committee appointed to wait on his Excellency Chas. Manly, reported that they had discharged their duty, and that it was the pleasure of the Governor elect to meet the two Houses on the 1st day of January.

Mr. Dancy, from the committee on private bills, reported favorably to the bill to incorporate Union Chapter No. 17 in the County of Duplin. Passed 2d reading.

Also, favorably to the bill to empower the Justices of the Peace to sell the Poor House in said County. Passed 2d reading.

Mr. Hicks, from the select committee to whom was referred the resolution in favor of the grovers of Irish Potatoes, reported back to the House the resolution, and recommended that it do not pass.

Mr. Rayner, from the select committee to whom was referred the expediency of enclosing the Public lands and repairing the Governor's House, reported a resolution on the subject.

Mr. Williamson introduced a resolution instructing the committee on Swamp Lands, to inquire into the propriety of grading certain lands. Adopted.

Mr. Stanley offered a resolution instructing the Speaker of the House of Commons to inform Mr. J. W. Ellis of his election as Judge of the Superior Court, and inquire of him whether he accepts of the appointment.

Mr. Courts opposed the resolution in a very animated speech. Mr. Stanley replied, but before he had concluded, the Speaker announced the arrival of the hour for taking up the orders of the day—the bill to increase the Revenue of the State, and the bill providing for an Insane Asylum.

On motion of Mr. Caldwell, of Guilford, the Revenue bill was laid on the table.

Mr. Stanley moved to lay the bill for Insane Asylum on the table. Lost.

Mr. Steele offered an amendment to 5th Sect. of the bill, which was rejected.

Mr. Stanley offered an amendment to the 1st Sect. by inserting the names of the Commissioners. Adopted.

Mr. Wadsworth introduced an amendment to strike out Raleigh and insert after and situated "as such place as shall hereafter be designated by a supplemental act." Adopted.

Mr. Stanley introduced an amendment to 2d Sect. to strike out "or unknown stone." Adopted.

Mr. Kelly moved to strike out 5th Sect.—Mr. Hicks moved an amendment to come in after 5th Sect., provided the cost of said Building should not exceed \$30,000. Rejected.

The question was then taken on Mr. Kelly's motion to strike out the table for the present. Negatived by Ayes 47; Nays 63.

Mr. Steele moved its indefinite postponement. Carried by Ayes 66; Nays 40.

A message was received from the Treasurer, communicating certain information in relation to Population of the Counties of the State, &c.; which, on motion, was ordered to be printed.

Also—sundry messages from the Senate, transmitting Bills and requesting concurrence.

Mr. Mebane moved to take up the Bill respecting the Finances of the State—providing for the payment of the debts of the State, incurred by endorsements for the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad. Passed its 2d and 3d readings.

The hour of the day set apart for the consideration of a bill for establishing a Hospital for the Insane, having arrived, Mr. Rayner proceeded, at considerable length, to address the House upon the general merits of the same, earnestly urging its adoption.

Mr. Rayner then moved an amendment appropriating \$100,000 for the purpose of erecting a Hospital—said sum to be derived from the proceeds of a biennial tax of 2 cents on every \$100 worth of property, and 74 cents on every poll.

Mr. Caldwell, of Guilford, was opposed to the method of raising the sum—though no man, on the face of the earth, was more heartily in favor of so philanthropic an object as the erection of this Hospital. He subsequently, however, in order to avoid embarrassment of the project, withdrew his objections.

Mr. Steele then moved a further amendment, appropriating \$50,000, to be paid out of the Public Treasury. Mr. Martin, of Franklin, moved an amendment to the amendment, appropriating \$25,000!

Pending the question, the House adjourned.

Steam Boat Excursion.—A number of strangers, among whom were several members of the Legislature, with a large number of gentlemen and ladies, went on an excursion, on Tuesday, in the Company's steamer *Vanderbilt*, Capt. Marshall. The boat proceeded down the river and went 12 or 15 miles beyond the bar, and returned about nine o'clock, at night.—Commercial.

The President's message was carried from Baltimore to Philadelphia by government express in four minutes less than three hours, the quickest time, probably, ever made between the two cities.

WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

Friday, December 29, 1848.

COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON.

Since we last had the pleasure of addressing you, friendly reader, Christmasday, 1848, has passed over both of us. We hope that our friends and patrons, one and all, have had a merry time of it. We wish them all a happy New Year. May they increase in wealth, numbers, and usefulness, and live to take the "Journal" a thousand years. Sadness, it is true, is mixed with our rejoicing, but no return of this happy season has ever presented them with so much reason for congratulation. Peace, plenty, and prosperity, individual and political, every where surround us. Happy in a system of laws, which, with the largest liberty compatible with good order and government, yet combines elements of sufficient strength and expansion our country is also blessed with untold agricultural and mineral wealth. Presenting within its limits every variety of climate and scenery—its citizens are no less distinguishable for every shade of difference in origin and opinion. Considering the felicitous reconciliation and harmony of so many discordant materials, we might almost regard this season as a political anniversary, in which, without profanation, we may call upon our country to rejoice and be glad, for the influence of Religion in her present prosperity; and wish her a new year full of equal honor and all equal progress with the last.

THE PASSING YEAR.

The year whose sands are now so rapidly diminishing, will probably be regarded, in the future days of our Republic, as one of the most important and remarkable in its history. Events have been crowded into its narrow space—changes have been effected—revolutions have been achieved, which are unequalled as well in the rapidity of their succession, as in the superior importance of their results, to any that have preceded them. The American Union have acquired an importance and prestige in the eyes of the world, which no human institution or empire has ever before enjoyed. Abroad we have seen Kingdoms overturned, and the solid superstructure of empires, whose base seemed welded in the prejudices and associations of centuries, has crumbled, almost in a